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New CIA focus

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The new focus of the Central Intelligence Agency will be precisely what the name implies, according to Director Stansfield Turner, suggesting a determined effort to win back global respect and public confidence.

The agency will reduce its "political action," the director said, referring to the interference in the governments of other nations that has brought criticism upon the CIA.

But Turner has pledged to stop short of "emasculating" the CIA's capabilities by placing an absolute ban on such intrigue. National security in the future may still demand that the CIA not only report on events abroad

but influence them as well.

As emphasized by the director, however, and reaffirmed by President Carter in his recent news conference, such activity must be authorized by the President himself and the proper committees of Congress must be advised.

Turner, who has been given expanded power and authority over all intelligence operations, recognizes the temptations that challenge his department. He also has demonstrated the toughness in personnel handling that indicates temptation will be resisted.

"This organization," he said, "must be under control at all times."